

INTIMATIONS.

1888. NOW READY. 1889.
CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
 For 1889.
 WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.
 (TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL ISSUE).
 COMPLETE, WITH APPENDIX, PLATES, &c., &c.
 Royal 8vo. pp. 1,300. \$3.00.
 SMALLER EDITION, pp. 816. \$1.50.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
 has been thoroughly revised and brought up
 to date, and is again much increased in bulk.

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 The Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach.

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 For Heartburn and Headache.
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 The Best Mild Purgative for Delicate Consti-
 tutions, Ladies, Children, and Infants, and for regular
 use in Warm Climates. DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists,
 London, and of Druggists and Storekeepers through-
 out the World.
 S.D.—Ask for DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

Agents—A. S. Watson & Co., Hongkong.

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED: THEIR

ANNUAL SUPPLY OF

LAWN GRASS SEED.

AND

SWEET CORN

FOR IMMEDIATE SOWING.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 2nd March, 1887.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All letters for publication should be written on one
 side of the paper only.
 Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not
 ordered for a fixed period will be continued until
 discontinued.
 Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should
 be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.
 After that hour the supply is limited.

MARRIAGE.

On the 28th April, at the Catholic Cathedral, by
 the Very Rev. Father Augustine, J. M. GUTIERREZ,
 of the Colonial Secretary's Office, to CAROLINA
 M. D'ALMEIDA, second daughter of the late
 M. D'Almeida & Co.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MAY 5TH, 1888.

As the question of the feasibility of navigat-
 ing the waters of the Upper Yangtze seems
 nearing solution, it may be well to turn to
 Southern China and see what advantages, if
 any, would accrue to foreign trade from the
 opening of the only other river in China
 capable of steam-navigation to any con-
 siderable extent—the Canton or West River.

Although these two rivers cannot be com-
 pared as regards size or trading capacity,
 the West River is an important highway
 for the commerce of the South, and is, in
 fact, the only waterway in the world, with
 the exception of the Yangtze, for the trade of
 Eastern Yunnan. They are, however, on an
 entirely different footing. By the Agree-
 ment of Chefoo of 1876, Ichang, a town on
 the north bank of the Yangtze a thousand
 miles from the sea, was made an open port,
 and permission was given to navigate as far
 as Chungking, four hundred miles above
 that point, whereas the question of the na-
 vigation by steamers of the West River above
 Canton has only recently been officially sub-
 mitted to the Chinese Government.

The development of foreign trade with
 China depends (1) on the capacity of the
 people to buy, and (2) on the facilities which
 the consumers possess of making the pur-
 chases which they require. To any one who
 has travelled in the interior of the country
 the capacity is apparent; in the remotest
 provinces foreign goods of various descrip-
 tions are in demand, while the returns of
 the Imperial Maritime Customs show how wide-
 ly distributed and how great are the wants
 of the people. What, then, are the facilities
 for supplying these wants? The facilities,
 if such a term may be employed, consist in
 the permission to land foreign goods at some
 nineteen points in China, where they are at
 first landed in an import duty, and there-
 after, if carried about, they are subjected to
 a variety of taxes which in reality strangle
 trade. It will be said, however, that the
 Transit Pass system has given the *coup de*
grace to internal taxation. But much as
 Transit Passes have helped to develop trade
 and there can be no question of the
 fact, as far as least as Central and Western
 China are concerned, they have failed in their
 main object, namely, the freeing of goods,
 after they have paid the tariff and transit
 dues, from all internal taxation till they
 have reached the hands of the actual con-
 sumers. Goods cannot be consigned under
 transit pass to a whole province; some
 place in the province; that is to say, some
 commercial centre must be stated as their
 destination. As far as that centre they are
 free from taxation; but immediately they
 leave it they are liable to every local tax, so
 that the ultimate price paid by the consumer
 is prohibitory to the more numerous or poorer
 classes.

It will naturally be asked, is there no
 remedy for this state of things? Three
 ways of dealing with these obstructions to
 trade may be mentioned. There are:—

1.—A thorough revision of the inland
 taxation of China and the establishment of
 fixed tariffs. This is perfectly true; but
 those conversant with trade in China know
 full well that outside the Imperial Maritime
 Customs no fixed tariff is ever adhered to
 and that very much more than the fixed
 amount is frequently exacted. This is no
 exaggeration; the writer has seen goods de-
 tained at the tax stations in the interior be-
 cause the owner was unwilling to pay the
 "squeeze" demanded in addition to the
 fixed rate. There is little hope, therefore,
 that, even if a revision were obtained, abuses
 would cease to exist.

2.—An expansion of the Transit Pass sys-
 tem.

As stated above, according to the
 rules regulating the issue of Transit Passes
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3.—The opening of ports nearer to the
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 and to act upon it.

These remarks on the development of the
 China trade generally will enable the reader
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 Southern China—the provinces of Kwang-
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 willing to press this matter until some ar-
 rangement has been come to in reference to
 the trade between Burma and Western
 China and between India and Tibet.

Delays are dangerous, however, and
 it would be well to bear in mind that
 once a groove has been established in China
 it is exceedingly difficult to induce trade to
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 China will compare with the trade con-
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 Conventions and Regulations in the world
 will not level the numerous Alpine ranges
 that lie between the borders of Burma and
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 Yunnan, nor will they help to bridge the
 deep ravines along which flow the Salween
 and the Mekong. No. The trade between
 Burma and Western China will increase
 when emigrants from Szechuen take up the
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The real danger to British enterprise in
 Southern China lies, as stated above,

cents late fee on each article up to 9 P.M., at which hour it may be sent on board with same late fee.

Printed and Published by E. CHATTERTON WILKINSON,
Wynham Street, Hongkong.

representative of the United States have been making a new treaty with China, which would make the new tariff of the new section in the Pacific Slope. The convention signed at Washington on March last by Secretary EATARD and Chinese Minister CHANG YEH-JOON for the future absolute exclusion of the Chinese coolie class from the ports of the American Republics. The Chinese Government has agreed that it is not to pay to the return of these labourers who have given horse, those who, in short, have married and brought up families in the States; but persons will only be allowed to be deported on a narrow restrictive basis. To the stranger Chinese, however, who go thither with no capital, but who are United States are in future barred as the interior of the Middle West is to the American settler. Now it will be possible for the Six Chinese to go to San Francisco to import Chinese labourers, but they will not be able to compete with Caucasian labour. The Chinese now living there are offered to remain, but no more will

the Colony, the Magistrate may, in no case, issue an enquiry order, unless he enquire into the cause of death of such person, and into a jury, and (in his discretion) with or without view of the body, and may determine the cause of death, and make such order with regard thereto as he shall consider necessary. Such enquiry may be held notwithstanding that the cause of death did not arise within the Colony." The only cases in which a jury may be summoned are those in which a person is charged with having any person shall suffer capital punishment. Section 13 provides that—"The Magistrate shall have, in relation to the enquiries provided for in sections 7 and 8, the same powers in all respects as he possesses or may possess in relation to any other proceedings taken before him, and may at the same time cause an enquiry committee any person for trial at the Supreme Court, or any further proceedings before himself or any other Magistrate." The figures "7 and 8" in the above section are apparently a misprint for "6 and 7." A similar mistake occurs in section 8, which commences as follows:—"Whenever a Magistrate shall require a jury under section 6." Evidently section 6 is intended.

Against the general policy of the Bill, no reasonable objection, we think, can be advanced. The present system may be ad-

with eyes open to its full significance. I have to reply to an inquiry by the Hon. A. P. MacEwen, whether it is not the case that when the inquiry was made by the Magistrate without a jury it should take place in public, the Attorney-General said it would not necessarily do so, that under the existing laws a preliminary inquiry before a Magistrate may be held in private, and that there were conceivable cases where it might be desirable for the detection and punishment of crime that an inquiry should be held in private. But the conceivable evils that might result from private inquiries far outweigh any conceivable evils that might arise from publicity, which is the recognised safeguard of the purity of the administration of justice. In practice it is very seldom that the right of holding inquiries in private is exercised, because the force of public opinion is so strong that it is almost impossible usually so many scandals arise, as it did in England quite recently, when a Coroner, for reasons of friendship, sought to keep a particular inquiry private. The result naturally was that circumstances which would otherwise have been recorded only in one or two local papers were chronicled throughout the whole Press of the United Kingdom. I still think that the public should be kept fully advised of such scandals, we should have the same as this scandal, we should have taken the opportunity

In connection with the lighting of the approaches of the port it may not be inappropriate to mention the subject of fog signals. These are urgently required, and their absence cannot be regarded as other than discreditable to a port which ranks as the third in the Empire. Vessels are frequently detained outside by fog, because there are no signals giving the position of the pier and the entrance. The total amount of shipping that entered the port last year was 5,401,387 tons, and for this large trade not a single fog signal is provided. More than five years ago the Chamber of Commerce addressed the Government on the subject of the excess of the light dues over the cost of the service for the maintenance of which they are levied. At that time the cost of the light dues collected amounted to \$20,756, and the cost of maintenance to only \$7,465, showing a net revenue of \$13,291. Last year the gross revenue from this source was \$39,000, while the cost of maintenance had undergone but little augmentation. The shipping interest is therefore amply justified in demanding that while it is taxed to this amount the Government should provide the necessary aids for the safe navigation of the passage, and fog signals are certainly necessary.

maternal drawing, and so forth, might be relegated to this senior division, which eventually might be afflicted with some English university." The formation of the higher division here recommended would be good student life, and it is the objection to the inclusion of Latin in the curriculum for outweigh any advantages there may be. The wisdom of devoting a large proportion of school time to the study of the dead languages has been called in question by very competent authorities in England. Allowing that the question may not be as yet removed beyond discussion, ground is reserved for the European boys, inclined to go to the retention of classics in their case, as regards Chinese boys we think the study of Latin can be regarded as little better than a waste of time. Exceptional cases there may be, as for instance where a boy's parents may wish him to study for the law or for medicine. Such cases can be very well provided for by special arrangements. It is true we have the Medical College, which will have to draw its students mainly from the Central School. Students entering the College have to pass "in such subjects of preliminary education as shall be from time to time required." Latin is not as yet one of the subjects in which candidates have to pass. Whether it is the intention of the authorities

with reference to this Bill that a clause be added after the present clause 8. This clause is intended to meet, as I understand, the question which was raised with reference to the use of the words "type of house", which occur in the 3rd section. The section reads "The word Chinese tenement shall mean any tenement of the type usually de-

unlawful opposition to the laws, and I am absolutely certain that the result would be a very far greater loss in the future. (Applause).

At a subsequent stage of the meeting HIS EXCELLENCY said—With further reference to what Mr. Ryrie has said—and I am very glad that he did mention the matter because it is one

